

SECTION 14 - APPROVED ANTISEPTICS, SOAPS and DISINFECTANTS

I. GENERAL INFORMATION. The following types of antiseptic and disinfectant agents are approved for use at in the DHCN in accordance with JCAHO standards and the Guidelines for Selection and Use of Disinfectants by Association of Professional in Infection Control (APIC). These classifications of antiseptics and disinfectants are the only agents that may be used and only for the purposes specified. The HICO, Safety Manager, and the Hospital Environmental Services Officer evaluate the products and the MSDS sheets presented by the housekeeping contractors at each facility of the DHCN. Materiel Standardization Committee then reviews and evaluates all products for purchase. The Safety Committee provides an annual review and approval. The current approved list for each facility may be found at the end of this section. Chemicals should not be mixed or diluted unless specified. Dilution should be exactly according to manufacturer's recommendation. Personnel handling chemicals should wear appropriate protective clothing.

II. SPECIFIC AGENTS AND THEIR USES.

A. Hand hygiene preparations.

1. Chlorhexidine gluconate, 2% aqueous (used for antimicrobial Handwashing).
2. Iodophor (povidone - iodine scrub).
3. STERIS healthcare lotion soap contains Triclosan, 0.5%.
4. PCMX lotion soap.
5. Waterless hand cleaner (Calstat) should be frequently used to achieve a rapid kill of transient organisms and particularly where there are no facilities for traditional handwashing. Avoid this method if your hands are visibly soiled.
7. STERIS hand lotion, a latex and CHG compatible product – available in large dispensers throughout the Network.

B. Antiseptic Skin Preparations.

1. Chlorhexidine gluconate, 4% aqueous. Surgical Preparation.
2. Iodophor (povidone - iodine scrub 0.75% or 10% solution). Surgical preparation.
3. Tincture of Iodine, 1-2%.
4. Isopropyl alcohol, 70%.

C. Skin Preparations NOT Acceptable for general use.

1. Hexachlorophene (PhisoHex, Septisol).
2. Quaternary Ammonium compounds (Benzalkonium chloride, Zephiran)
3. Mercury based preparations (Merthiolate, Mercurochrome).

D. Instrument Sterilization and High Level Disinfection.

1. Critical items which will be implanted or enter tissue or the vascular system should be purchased sterile or be sterilized using steam, STERIS, or STERRAD.

2. Semicritical items which come into contact with mucous membranes or skin that is not intact *minimally* require high level disinfection with chemical germicides.

3. Noncritical items which come into contact with intact skin may be treated with low-level disinfection - glass thermometers, bandage scissors, etc.

a. Soak pre-cleaned items in 70% isopropyl alcohol, Caviwipes or Clorox germicidal wipes.

4. Complete details for the above are found in Section 13, 13A, and 13B.

E. Environmental Cleaning/Housekeeping Agents.

1. These chemical solutions are used on floors, walls, furniture, fixtures.

2. A quaternary based germicide with a synthetic detergent (3M HBV#25) is the primary agent used throughout the hospital.

3. 3M HBV#25 or Cavicide may be used on bassinets and incubators in the Newborn Nursery.

4. The phenolic germicidal detergent solution (Expose II) is reserved for emergency use and is maintained in the supply/ storage office.

5. Sodium hypochlorite (bleach - 1:10 dilution) or Cavicide is used to disinfect environmental surfaces after spilled blood is carefully absorbed and appropriately removed. A five minute contact time is approved for tuberculocidal activity for Cavicide – required when cleaning areas contaminated by blood.

6. Solid room deodorizers may be used for odor control.